CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	DSC00498.jpg
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1500030.030
Medium:	Computer Image File Printout
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	Not applicable
Applicant:	Secretary for Internal Affairs
Classification:	Objectionable.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	14 April 2015
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	13 April 2015

Summary of reasons for decision:

The computer image file printout is deemed to be objectionable because it tends to promote and support the exploitation of young persons for sexual purposes.

The image on the printout shows a young teenage girl posing in a sexually inviting manner. Her costume resembles a school uniform but is more recognisable as the highly sexualised version used in commercial pornography. The apparent purpose of the image is to encourage the sexual titillation or arousal of viewers. Images such as this perpetuate the belief that young teenagers are available for sexual use and suitable partners for sexual activity with adults. The continued availability of such material encourages the creation or reinforcement of a sexual interest in young people and contributes to their sexual exploitation.

The classification of the publication interferes with the right to freedom of expression set out in the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990. However, this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention and is a reasonable limitation on the freedom of expression. The classification reflects the concern of a free and democratic society to protect its young and vulnerable members from sexual exploitation.